

**BASIC REQUIREMENTS**

In order for an alien to be eligible to work in the US, sponsorship by a duly registered US based employer is primarily required. The Hiring Nurse Group works in coordination with a number of these employers seeking qualified applicants to work for their respective companies.

The basic qualifying factors for foreign workers in the following health professions are as follows:

**REGISTERED NURSE**

- 1) Possession of a baccalaureate degree in Nursing or its equivalence;
- 2) A license to work as a registered nurse in home country;
- 3) Pass the examination given by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS);
- 4) A *VisaScreen* Certificate;
- 5) Pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN);
- 6) A full and unrestricted license to practice professional nursing in the state/territory of intended employment.

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST**

- 1) Possession of a baccalaureate degree in Physical Therapy or its equivalence;
- 2) A *VisaScreen* Certificate;
- 3) Pass the National Physical Therapist Examination (NPTE) or a jurisprudence examination honored by the board;
- 4) Completion of state (or territorial) board approved clinical service experience;
- 5) A full and unrestricted license to practice physical therapy in the state/territory of intended employment.

**RESPIRATORY THERAPIST**

- 1) Possession of a baccalaureate degree in Respiratory Therapy or its equivalence;

Most state boards require that a Respiratory Therapist be a graduate of a program or school that is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) or the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC);

- 2) Pass the Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) examination-

The CRT examination is the minimum standard for licensure. CRTs who meet education and experience requirements can take a separate examination, leading to the award of Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT).

- 3) A full and unrestricted license to practice respiratory therapy in the state/territory of intended employment.

## **QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS**

### 1) CGFNS

The CGFNS certification program is designed specifically for first-level, general nurses educated and licensed outside the United States.

The examination is offered three times a year at more than 40 locations spanning the globe. The exam is divided into two parts with a total of 260 questions.

#### Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- a) A nurse must be educated and hold both initial and current registration/ licensure as a first-level, general nurse as defined historically by the International Council of Nurses (ICN).
- b) A general nurse must have obtained theoretical instruction and clinical practice in a variety of nursing areas.

To register for the examination, you must contact the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) directly.

For fees and additional information, you may visit <http://www.cgfns.org/cgfns/>

### 2) NCLEX-RN

The NCLEX-RN examination measures the competencies needed to perform safely and effectively as a newly licensed, entry-level registered nurse. This exam is used by state and territorial boards of nursing to assist in making licensure decision.

The examination is administered in the U.S., American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Effective January 2005, the NCLEX examination will be administered internationally in Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region of the Republic of China, London-England and Seoul, South Korea. The examination is 75-265 items long with a test limit of six hours. Length of test is determined by your responses to the items.

*\* The applicant must meet eligibility requirements set by the board of nursing.*

#### Registration Process:

- a) Submit application for licensure to the board of nursing in the state or territory where you wish to be licensed. (Make sure to have your CGFNS certification no. as you need to indicate this on the form.).
- b) Register with PearsonVUE using any one of the following methods-
  - \* Online at [www.pearsonvue.com/nclex](http://www.pearsonvue.com/nclex)
  - \* By Mail – only U.S. certified check, cashier's check or money order accepted  
The check must be made payable to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and addressed to NCLEX Registration, P.O. Box 64950, St. Paul, MN 55164-0950

\* By phone – to any of NCLEX local and international offices listed online at [http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Web\\_Bulletin\\_05.pdf](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Web_Bulletin_05.pdf)

- c) Receive Confirmation of Registration from PearsonVUE.
- d) The board of nursing makes the candidate eligible to take the NCLEX examination.
- e) Receive “*Authorization to Test*” (ATT) from PearsonVUE. (You must have your ATT no. available when you report to your test center.)

For fees and additional information,  
you may visit [http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Web\\_Bulletin\\_05.pdf](http://www.ncsbn.org/pdfs/Web_Bulletin_05.pdf)

### 3) NATIONAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST EXAMINATION (NPTE)

The physical therapist (PT) and physical therapist assistant (PTA) examinations are designed to assess basic entry-level competence of the licensure candidate who has graduated from an accredited program or from an equivalent non-accredited program.

The FSBPT develops and administers the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. All 50 states and 3 additional jurisdictions use the NPTE as one factor in the licensure or certification of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

The FSBPT also can develop and administer *jurisprudence examinations*. Currently, FSBPT offers jurisprudence exams for California, Georgia, Florida and Nebraska.

#### Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- a) Must meet the licensing authority’s eligibility requirements
- b) The examination may be administered only to bona fide candidates for initial licensure or certification, or candidates who are not currently licensed in a jurisdiction and do not have a qualifying examination score for that jurisdiction.

#### Registration Process:

- a) Obtain registration materials from the licensing authority of the jurisdiction in which you are seeking licensure.
- b) Return completed registration materials along with payment to the appropriate organization as identified on the instructions you received from the licensing authority.
- c) The jurisdiction licensing authority will approve your eligibility and notify FSBPT.
- d) FSBPT will send you an “Authorization to Test” (ATT) letter containing instructions on how to schedule an appointment for the examination with Prometric.
- e) Schedule an appointment for the examination at your chosen Prometric testing site. You must sit for the examination within your 60-day eligibility period as indicated on the ATT letter.

You may sit for the examination at any of the approximately 300 Prometric testing centers in the United States, U.S. territories and Canada. You are not required to sit for the examination within the jurisdiction in which you are seeking licensure.

A unique identification number will be required to be able to take the examination. This should be your Social Security Number. If you do not have a Social Security Number, you can obtain one from the Social Security Administration web site or call 1-800-772-1213.

In rare cases where a candidate cannot obtain a Social Security Number, an Alternate Identification Number (AIN) may be obtained from FSBPT. After you have filled out the application, mail it to

FSBPT. Your registration will not be processed without either a Social Security Number or an Alternate Identification Number.

Fees vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

For additional information, visit <http://www.fsbpt.org/exams/>

4) NATIONAL BOARD FOR RESPIRATORY CARE, INC. (NBRC)

There are a number of major examinations that could be taken from NBRC. The CRT Examination is the entry-level examination and is designed to objectively measure essential knowledge, skills and abilities required of entry-level respiratory therapists.

The examination consists of 160 multiple-choice questions (140 scored items and 20 pretest items) distributed among three major content areas: clinical data, equipment and therapeutic procedures. Candidates will be given three hours to complete the Entry Level CRT Examination.

Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- a) Applicant should be at least 18 years of age.
- b) Applicant shall satisfy one of the following:
  - i) Have a minimum of an associate degree from a respiratory therapy education program supported by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), or its predecessor the Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education (JRCRTE), or accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
  - ii) Until December 2005, have a certificate of completion/graduation from a respiratory therapy education program supported by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), or its predecessor the Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education (JRCRTE), or accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).  
  
\* Any one enrolled in a program beginning January 1, 2002 must comply with requirement "b i)" above.
  - iii) Canadian Registered Respiratory Therapists may be admitted to the Entry Level CRT Examination by presenting a completed application form, new application fee and a notarized copy of their Canadian Registry certificate.

Registration Requirements:

- a) The applicant will be provided instructions relating to the examination. He/she must select the examination for which he is applying for and pay the corresponding application fee.
- b) The applicant must obtain an official copy of his/her certificate of completion/ graduation/degree. (The copy need be notarized and the notary public be asked to impress the photocopy with their seal, as well as, verify that the photocopy is a true and correct copy of the original.)

For fees and additional information, visit <http://www.nbrc.org>